

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

December 17, 2009

The Honorable Barack H. Obama
President
The White House Office
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

It is our understanding that, during the climate change convention in Copenhagen, China has expressed an interest in obtaining green technologies to produce its energy in a more environmentally responsible manner. We view this as an important opportunity for the United States to advance our trade interests, incentivize high-paying American technology and manufacturing jobs, reduce global emissions of traditional pollutants, all while paying down the national debt. We therefore request that you proactively engage the Chinese delegation in Copenhagen to begin these discussions.

As you know, federal regulations under the Clean Air Act (CAA) require that when a new power generation facility is constructed in the United States, that facility employs Best Available Control Technology (BACT), or "an emission limitation based on the maximum degree of reduction... which the permitting authority... determines is achievable for such facility through application of production processes and available methods, systems, and techniques." Thanks to American ingenuity, the limit of what is considered BACT is constantly being raised and redefined. Coal-fired power plants – as well as alternative clean coal facilities such as coal-to-liquids (CTL) and coal gasification plants – employ or are being proposed to employ the highest standards of environmental safeguards ever made available for the combustion of this abundant and affordable fuel source.

Due to the availability of coal and the economic realities facing China as it works to provide reliable power to its over 1.3 billion citizens, coal-fired power plants are being built at an unprecedented rate within China's borders. These generation facilities are held to a fraction of the environmental regulations overseeing a comparable power plant in America, and even if similar regulations were enforced, access to the same level of BACT as American facilities employ does not exist in China.

We understand that the BACT equipment and systems developed by American companies are private property and, as such, cannot simply be given to the Chinese government. We also recognize that economic incentive may be lacking to purchase such technologies should they be made available for sale. We do not believe, however, that these are the only options available.


Specifically, we recommend that you consider redirecting stimulus dollars towards the purchase of BACT equipment and services from American-owned manufacturers and assist the Chinese government in retrofitting or employing these purchased technologies in existing or future coal-fired power plants. In return for these services, China would "sell-back" a predetermined amount of held U.S. debt commensurate with the value of the services rendered.

The United States' negative trade balance with China perpetuates their holding of U.S. securities, which amounts to almost \$800 billion as of September 2009. Through increased exports, especially of U.S. manufactured green energy technology products that the Chinese want, the government can move towards rebalancing our trade. This arrangement would be mutually-beneficial to both U.S. and Chinese economic conditions if it results in decreased debt through the reduction of Chinese U.S. securities holdings.

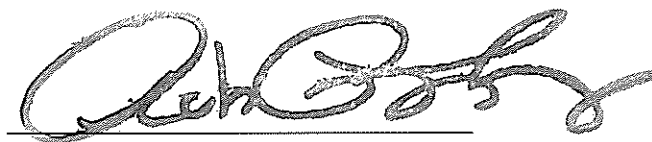
We realize that determining the value estimate of such an arrangement to both trading partners would be a sizable task, but we think it is also an achievable one. The end result would be a reduction in global pollution levels and a lowering of the federal debt, all through the use of federal stimulus dollars for the very purpose you originally proposed – the creation of American jobs and leveraging economic recovery through the promotion of American ingenuity.

On November 16th of this year, you stated that: "During these difficult economic times, we have a responsibility to consider all good ideas to encourage and accelerate job creation in this country." We agree. Thank you in advance for your consideration of our proposal.

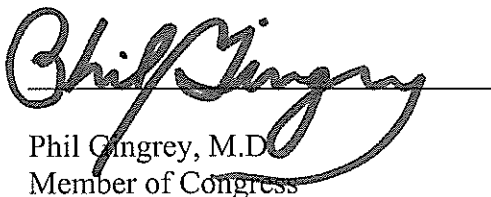
Sincerely,



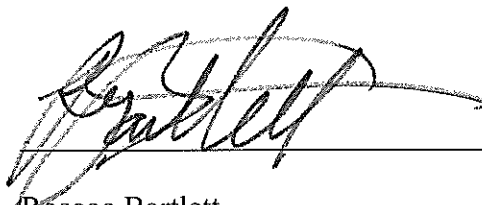
Cynthia M. Lummis
Member of Congress



Rob Bishop
Member of Congress



Phil Gingrey, M.D.
Member of Congress



Roscoe Bartlett
Member of Congress